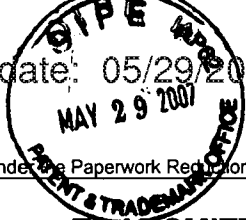


Receipt date: 05/29/2007

10540451 - GAU: 1773



PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) |  | Application Number     | 10/540,451      |
|   |  | Filing Date            | Dec. 15, 2005   |
|   |  | First Named Inventor   | Minoru SUGIYAMA |
|   |  | Art Unit               | 1773            |
|   |  | Examiner Name          | Kevin R. Kruer  |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  |  | Attorney Docket Number | 3163-051952     |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |  |   |
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| Remarks  |  |   |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |                   |          |        |
|--|-------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name                                  | The Webb Law Firm |          |        |
| Signature                                  |                   |          |        |
| Printed Name                               | Kent E. Baldauf   |          |        |
| Date                                       | May 23, 2007      | Reg. No. | 25,826 |

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Appl. No. 10/540,451

IDS dated May 23, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 3163-051952

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. 10/540,451 Confirmation No. 1276  
Applicants Minoru SUGIYAMA et al.  
Filed December 15, 2005  
Title Method for Electroless Plating  
Art Unit : 1773  
Examiner : Kevin R. Kruer  
Customer No. : 28289



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTED BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98, no copies of the United States patents are enclosed.

Reference No. JP 2961125, cited on page 2 of the instant specification, published as JP 11-235064, is cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a. The non-patent reference is cited on page 3 of the specification. Copies of these references are enclosed herewith.

This application is the United States national phase of PCT Application No. PCT/JP2003/016903. The International Search Report dated March 9, 2004, for the underlying PCT application identified the remaining references listed on Form PTO/SB/08. Copies of these references are submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement. The degree of relevance for the non-English language references listed on Form PTO/SB/08 is indicated in the International Search Report. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. The European reference is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 6,762,210, which is also cited on attached Form PTO/SB/08.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on May 23, 2007.

Diane Paull  
(Name of Person Mailing Document)

*Diane Paull*  
Signature

5/23/2007  
Date

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Receipt date: 05/29/2007  
Appl. No. 10/540,451  
IDS dated May 23, 2007  
Attorney Docket No. 3163-051952

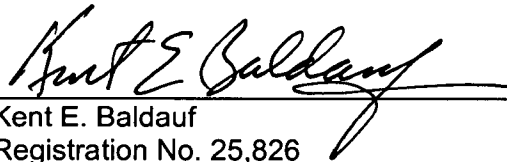
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No fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted before a first Office Action on the merits. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,  
THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By



Kent E. Baldauf  
Registration No. 25,826  
Attorney for Applicants  
700 Koppers Building  
436 Seventh Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Telephone: 412-471-8815  
Facsimile: 412-471-4094

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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|------------------------|-----------------|
| Application Number     | 10/540,451      |
| Filing Date            | Dec. 15, 2005   |
| First Named Inventor   | Minoru SUGIYAMA |
| Art Unit               | 1773            |
| Examiner Name          | Kevin R. Krueer |
| Attorney Docket Number | 3163-051952     |

Sheet

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of

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                            | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                       |                          | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          | US- 6,762,210 B1                           | 07-13-2004                     | Oguro et al.                                       |   |
|                       |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                       |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
|                       |                          | JP(1999) 11-235064 A  | 08-27-1999                     | Agency Ind Science                                 | English Abstract attached   |                |
|                       |                          | EP 0 943 402 A2   | 09-22-1999                     | Agency Ind Science                                 | Equiv. US 6,762,210   |                |
|                       |                          | JP(2002) 2002-256443 A  | 09-11-2002                     | Japan Science & Tech                               | English Abstract attached   |                |
|                       |                          |   |                                |  |   |                |
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Examiner  
Signature

/Katherine A. Bareford/

Date  
Considered

11/02/2009

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/540,451      |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | Dec. 15, 2005   |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Minoru SUGIYAMA |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 1773            |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Kevin R. Kruer  |
| Sheet   | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number   | 3163-051952     |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
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|                                 |                          | "Biomimetics Handbook", compiled by Yoshihito NAGATA; first edition, 09/13/2000, published by N T S Co., Ltd., pp. 932-938 (7 pp.)  |                |
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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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